

Submitted by Terry Brandon, Development/Volunteer Chairman to Lou Biondi President & GFPS Board

**Accomplished:**

1. Worked with Enclave Students most Tuesdays and Thursdays in April. In addition to learning to stack wood split from silver maple beside the Farmhouse, students learned to split wood using a safe hydraulic wood splitter. Students also planted out Heirloom Tom Thumb lettuce into irrigated soil in the Goshen High Tunnel. These were plants they had started from seed in the previous month. Vicky, Matthew, and Michaela are working on following multistep instructions according to their teacher Liz Guidry. The group also cleared their garden plot of weeds and planted additional strawberry plants.
2. Broadneck HS Science Eco Club (Teachers Matt Bem & Nancy Bourgeois) while maintaining their hydroponic kits in the High Tunnel have begun to experience plant diseases on their plantings and are researching possible causes. Water tests of their bins showed higher ph values than desired and a puzzling presence of ammonia in their kits and also in the Goshen well water taken directly from the old well. With the help of Roy Benner we have roughly 300 lettuce plants under cultivation in 4 different models of hydroponics kits. In addition to approximately 14 hydroponics bin types of hydroponic kits, we also have three distinctly different pvc ebb & flow types of hydroponic kits that pump nutrient rich water over the roots of the plants.
3. STEM Night at Cape St. Claire Elementary on March 16, 2017 manned by BHS student Catherine Wallace and Roy Benner, Lou Biondi, Kara Maddox and Terry Brandon was an opportunity to highlight our Goshen Farm High Tunnel activity with hydroponics and exploration of micro greens growing systems.
4. Approximately 150 Tasty Jade Japanese long cucumbers have been germinated a raised to hardening off size for ultimate planting in both the soil and the hydroponics kits in the Goshen High Tunnel in late April
5. Maintained Goshen High Tunnel for ultimate use as educational center for 2017 students including Broadneck High School Science Club under teachers Matthew Bem and Nancy Bourgeois constructing hydroponic plant kits and many school field trip tours at all levels. Exterior control of winter chickweed was managed with cardboard and wood chips and the High Tunnel side roller systems were adjusted to aid in control of high temperatures in the High Tunnel. Water systems and irrigation hoses were turned on for twice daily plant watering.
6. March 16 BHS Integrated Community Stakeholder Team discussed the Signature Program vision touching on Environmental Literacy, global relevancy, student worldviews, and vertical alignment of environmental curricula.
7. March 27 meeting at CSC Elementary with Ms. Velozo, Ms. Kain, and MS Weisgerber discussed vertical alignment vertical curricula between BHS and CSC Elementary using Goshen Farm as nexus for 15 Environmental projects/lessons using high schoolers as teachers to elementary aged children using lessons developed by two new high school interns, Sydney Roberts and Caroline Jackson who have been invited to fulfill Goshen internships in the summer and fall of 2017. Both are recognized by their instructors as gifted students interested in Environmental issues.
8. Plans for hands-on activities such as sawing and splitting work and carrying water to the Farmhouse began to take shape for use with visiting elementary students and families visiting Goshen Farm
9. African-American Heritage Preservation Grant Workshop at Harriet Tubman Center, sponsored by the Maryland Historical Trust presented by Anne Raines, MHT Capital Grants and Loans Administrator and Maya Davis, interim MCSSHC Director on April 6, 2017 resulted in beginning research for a new capital grant possibility for GFPS to be discussed separately by the board at its April meeting.
10. Participated in April Garden and Grounds cleanup.

**Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Short Term:
  - a. Preparation for School Board May visit and April 22 Goshen Open House

- b. Development committee exploring Capital Grant proposal for July 1 submission to HMT
- c. Continued High Tunnel plant rotation to cucumbers in late Aprils
- d. Interview with various students for 4 internships at Goshen Farm in 2017-2018 school year including internship job descriptions for each.
- e. Establish additional educational workshops for high tunnel usage focused on hydroponic technology
- f. Begin series of interactive programs with Goshen Membership utilizing internet capabilities and Goshen website with involvement of school students.
- g. Work with Signature program at Broadneck High School to assist in vertical curriculum development at the middle school and elementary levels in the promotion of Environmental Science integration with other curricula such as math, social studies, language and art.
- h. Recruit additional volunteers from Goshen membership to carry out established Goshen goals and objectives

2. Long Term:

- a. Develop long term educational partners with local community organizations and schools
- b. Explore African-American educational program development for future grant possibilities.

## Goshen Farm Sharing Garden Committee Report for April 2017

Submitted by Bob Nestruck, Garden Committee Chairman to Lou Biondi, GFPS President and GFPS Board

### **Accomplished:**

1. All plots are rented for 2017 growing season!
2. Many gardeners have cleared their plots and starting spring planting. All plots should be up and planted by the Open House.
3. Work continues on the fence as one of our gardeners, Dave Shoemaker, has been replacing rotten pickets with ones that are in better shape.
4. Garden path has been cleared of weeds and new wood chips are being put down.

### **Needs Accomplishing:**

1. Short Term:
  - a. Night vision camera to monitor nocturnal activity.
  - b. Establish educational workshops for high tunnel usage.
  - c. Compost piles need attending.
  - d. Improve Wi-Fi signal to garden.
  - e. Sift compost piles so we can add fall cleanup material.
  
2. Long Term:
  - a. Improve volunteerism in the Sharing Garden.
  - b. Install Weather station.

**Accomplished:**

1. Eagle Scout Update: Steve Engel' Eagle Scout Service Project (GFPS' sign at the Cape St. Claire Road and GFPS driveway) was installed on Saturday March 18, 2017.
2. Constructed a new, vertical style PVC pipe hydroponic system, now growing strawberry plants in the Hoop House/High Tunnel.
3. Worked with Broadneck High School's Enclave students several times stacking firewood and planting lettuce in the Hoop House/High Tunnel.
4. Assisted Broadneck High School's Eco Club on several Thursday afternoons with their hydroponics projects. The projects consist of growing various vegetables in six large rubber tubs with infused oxygen from small electrical pumps. Will travel with the BHS Eco Club on April 19 to view micro greens growing in a Baltimore City row house.
5. Assisted Terry Brandon's lead to cut up the remaining 19 trees surrounding the "Old Well." Most of the logs have been stacked on the driveway (Free firewood pile)
6. The last large Silver Maple tree logs were cut up into fireplace lengths and with the help of Terry Brandon split. The barrowed log splitter was returned to the lender.
7. Deconstructed the existing Apiary and moved it to the new site east of the future Shallow Wildlife Pond. Reconstructed, with some modifications, the Apiary at its new location. Excess fill and trash needed to be moved and the piled soil was used to level the new site. The 6" x 6" treated timbers were set in place and the old hives were located in the new location. It is felt that this new location will be a better location for the bees. The previous site is now available for a possible (barn, stage, and/or amphitheater, at future date).
8. Five new hives of Bees arrived on April 8<sup>th</sup> and most all seem happy. One hive may be missing a queen, which Erik Wallace is evaluating.
9. Installed two of the Constellation Energy Grant diversions (one near the wood chip pile and one on the east edge of the parking lot entrance with the help of Bob Nestruck and Larry Jennings. This diversion required constructing a small swale to convey the runoff water in front of the Tenant's House to exit into the woods just south of the Tenant's House. The swale was seeded and mulched with straw. Two additional diversions will be installed (hopefully) by the Open House.
10. Sean Powers had his first field day establishing the woodland trail and timeline. The entire trail was cleared, stone placed at the beginning (head) of a waterway, woodchips placed on the entire trail, and any trash and farm rubbish encountered were moved to the County landfill. The trail looks good, Sean. Additional stone will be needed at another drainage area crossing, two fences will be installed at the trail entrances, and the timeline signs (must be approved by GFPS), constructed and installed along the trail.
11. David of Richard's Tree Care ground thirty-eight (38) tree stumps around the property that have been an eyesore and a pain to the grass-mowing personnel. Thanks Richard, Christy, and David for a splendid job.
12. Made and laminated many new signs for the Open House.
13. Made and installed two new temporary signs on Cape St. Claire Road advertising the Open House and the Scales and Tales event.
14. Planted 5 Paw Paw trees in the Goshen Farm Orchard. Still have about twelve Paw Paw trees to plant in an appropriate location(s) in the woods (shady and damp).

**Needs Accomplishing:**

#### Short Term:

- A. Continue removing the internal pickets of the west side of the Sharing Garden fence.
- B. Work with Laura Murry on April 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss Goshen Farm with students at the Arnold Temple.
- C. Install the replacement drive cable to speed up the Gravely mower's travel speed. Currently, the jury-rigged cable does not allow the mower to move very fast.
- D. Rent a concrete saw to cut through the millings, and install the last two diversions.

#### Long Term:

- a. Develop a plan to attack to control rampant growth of invasive vines that strangle the Farm's trees.
- b. Continue descriptions of planned activities listed in the Grounds Master Use Plan and continue layout of the grounds.
- c. Pursue new water well for Goshen Farm or try to tie into county water system near the Goshen Farm/Cape St. Claire Elementary School property line.
- d. Pursue composting toilets, incinerator toilets, holding tank(s) with pump outs, regular toilets connected to a septic system, or connecting to the county sewer system. Jim Morrison, of Hancock's Resolution pointed out that after their research into toilet facilities, Hancock's Resolution will be **using a large holding tank** for the bathroom effluent. He states this is a **MUCH cheaper** way to handle toilet facilities in today's world.

#### Coming Events:

- A. April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Anne Arundel Community College class of 21 students and three staff are coming to work on the farm for "The campus that Cares activities.
- B. May 2<sup>nd</sup>, The Harbour School's 22 students and four faculty are coming to work on the Farm.
- C. May 3<sup>rd</sup>, The Anne Arundel Board of Education is scheduled to visit Goshen Farm.
- D. May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Cape St. Claire Elementary School are having 100 students (two 50 student groups) come to learn about soils with Dean Cowherd and learn about Hydroponic growing within the Hoop House with Terry and me.

#### New Business:

- 1. Get price to mount lightning rods to protect Goshen Farm House (I will donate four Antique Glass Balls used on this style of lightning rods)
- 2. Security Cameras?
- 3. Improving the Farm House WiFi router(s)?

### **History Committee Report April 2017**

I've attached what I wrote up on May Radoff. I would like some board members to take a look at it and let me know if they think something like this would be useful for the society, either on the web or in a printed format. I have enough information on several of the other owners to do the same type of thing.

No urgent needs at this time.

Scott Powers

## May Conkling Radoff



May Conkling was born on October 26, 1907 in Baltimore, Maryland to William H. Conkling and May Isabel Patterson. She was born into one of the most affluent families in Maryland. On October 18, 1939 she married Dr. Morris Leon Radoff, originally of Houston, Texas, in Alexandria, Virginia. He was born to Harry Radoff and Goldie Rabinowitz, both immigrants. Harry was from Russia and Goldie from Belarus.



Goldie Rabinowitz, mother of Dr. Radoff.

The Radoffs moved to Goshen Farm in 1942. The home was yet to have electricity, and didn't have a line run until after World War 2.

While Dr. Morris Radoff, the Maryland State Archivist, was the son of recent immigrants, May's roots stretched to the very earliest days of European settlement. The following are several of her notable ancestors.



Grandfather George Frederick Patterson was born on May 24, 1840 in Bristol, England. He came to Baltimore in about 1880. He had grown up around the shipping industry and was a founder of the very successful Patterson, Ramsay and Company, steamship agents and brokers. He retired in 1907 and died in 1914.



Great Grandfather William Patterson was born in Scotland around 1795. By the age of 15 he was apprenticed to a shipbuilder in Rotherhithe and was later foreman to William Evans, a well known ship builder. He would eventually be referred to as the "father" of steam navigation on the Atlantic. He was the president of the Great Western Steamship Company of Bristol. He retired to Liverpool and died in 1869.



SAMUEL KIRK, FOUNDER OF THE HOUSE OF  
SAMUEL KIRK & SON CO.

Samuel Kirk, great great grandfather, was born on February 15, 1793 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Samuel apprenticed as a silversmith under James Howell in Philadelphia. He moved to Baltimore in 1815 and opened his own shop at 212 Market St. The business eventually evolved into Samuel Kirk and Sons. It became one of the prominent silversmith companies in the nation. Customers included the Belmonts, Astors and Roosevelts of New York; the Lowells, Peabodys and Adamases from Boston; the Biddles, Cadwalladers and Ingersolls from



Philadelphia; and the Hamptons, Lees and Davises from the South. The firm eventually included May's great grandfathers, William Higgins Conkling and Henry Child Kirk.

2<sup>nd</sup> Great Grandfather Nathaniel Conkling was born in 1757 in Suffolk, New York. He served in the 4<sup>th</sup> Continental line during the American Revolution, eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant. His family, along with many others, was forced to flee Long Island during the war and relocate to Connecticut. He died in 1817 at Old Lyme, Connecticut.



6<sup>th</sup> great grandfather Lion Gardiner was a soldier and military engineer. He founded the first English settlement in what became the state of New York on Long Island. He was born in 1599 in England and came to America by way of the Netherlands in about 1635. A military engineer in service of the Prince of Orange in the Netherlands along with John Mason, he was hired by the Connecticut Company in 1635 to oversee construction of fortifications in the new colony. He finished and commanded the Saybrook Fort at the mouth of the Connecticut River during the Pequot War of 1636. In 1639 he purchased from the Montaukett tribe an island which they called Manchonat, located between the North Fork, Suffolk County, New York and South Fork, Suffolk County, New York. The original grant by which Gardiner acquired proprietary rights in the island made it an entirely separate and independent "plantation," in no way connected either with New England or New York. He was thus empowered to draft laws for Church and state. He called it the Isle of Wight. It has since become known as Gardiners Island. The island remains in the possession of his descendants. He died in 1663 and was buried in East Hampton, New York.

Thomas Standish, 6th Great Grandfather, was born about 1612 in England and was one of the original settlers of Wethersfield, Connecticut. He had military training and built the fort and fortifications there before settlement. It has long been the contention of some genealogists that Thomas is an older son of the famous Captain Myles Standish and his first wife Rose. There is no credible proof of this. Thomas died in Connecticut on December 5, 1693.



May Isabel Patterson, Mother Grandmother Mary F Thorpe

May, having been born into a family of wealth, chose a humble life in an aging farmhouse. By comparison her cousin, Charles Scarlett Jr. purchased the Whitehall Mansion only several miles from Goshen farm in 1946, and spent the rest of his life restoring it.

May passed away on August 26, 1991 and was buried in the family cemetery of a close friend on a farm in St. Margarets, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, a few miles from where she spent almost 50 years of her life.



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

April 19, 2017

Submitted by Becky Benner on April 15, 2017

## MEMBER TOTALS for 2017

- Members who either joined or renewed since September 17, 2016, and whose memberships thus expire December 31, 2017.

### Residents

Resident Individuals = 17

Resident Households = 61

Corporate = 7

#### Includes

0 new Individual member

0 renewal Individual member

2 new Household members

5 renewal Household members

1 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 85 resident members

### Non-Residents

Non-resident Individuals = 36

Non-resident Households = 26

Corporate = 7

#### Includes

2 new Individual members

6 renewal Individual members

1 new Household member

0 renewal Household member

0 new Corporate member

0 renewal Corporate member

Total = 69 non-resident members

**2017 Total = 154 overall memberships**

### ACCOMPLISHED

- Inventoried supplies after Java and Jazz / Teas and Tunes event. Returned bins of supplies to second floor of the Farm House.
- Helped Grounds Chair to prepare Farm's grounds for Board of Education visit on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Dedicated several afternoons to assorted tasks.
- Advertised Spring Open House on assorted online calendars and newsletters.
- Attended Four Rivers Heritage Area Education meeting. Discussion of federal funding cuts, impacts, and advocacy by members who offered to share letter templates to send to legislators. Collaborative opportunities and Best Practices and Great Ideas were exchanged. Lisa Robbins of Historic Annapolis demonstrated the results of the Google 360 App. Materials regarding

equipment, accessories, and pricing will be forwarded. The App appears promising for the 2017 Summer Internship Opportunity (Smartphone App Producer) proposed to the AACPS Internship Portal.

- Attended Four Rivers Heritage Area Marketing meeting. Discussion incorporated newsletters, website updates, and FRHA Marketing Plan for the new attendees. Collaborative opportunities (July 4<sup>th</sup>, “Art Week” in Annapolis, First Sunday Arts Festivals, etc.) were presented and multiple questions were either answered or material promised to be forwarded. Workshop on Facebook (and other social media) outreach suggested and finalized details will be distributed.
- Attended “PR Bazaar” sponsored by *The Capital*. Met, spoke with, and received contact information from liaisons from assorted local media.
- Provided snacks, sodas, and water for BoE visit – the Broadneck High School students and Sharing Gardeners enjoyed the repast as the BoE members were not able to visit the Farm.
- Assisted in Goshen Farm Sharing Garden sponsored Saturday clean-up.

### **TO DO ITEMS**

- Change CSCIA Signboard August date for Wine-Tasting / Silent Auction.
- Post new Internship Opportunities for specific students on AACPS Internship Portal
- Resume review of edits made to Strategy Plan Goals and Objectives
- Resume review and edits for GFPS’ projects

### **NOTE**

- April 2016 = 143 overall memberships; April 2017 = 154 overall memberships
- March 2016 = 135 overall memberships; March 2017 = 133 overall memberships
- February 2016 = 124 overall memberships; February 2017 = 116 overall memberships

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time